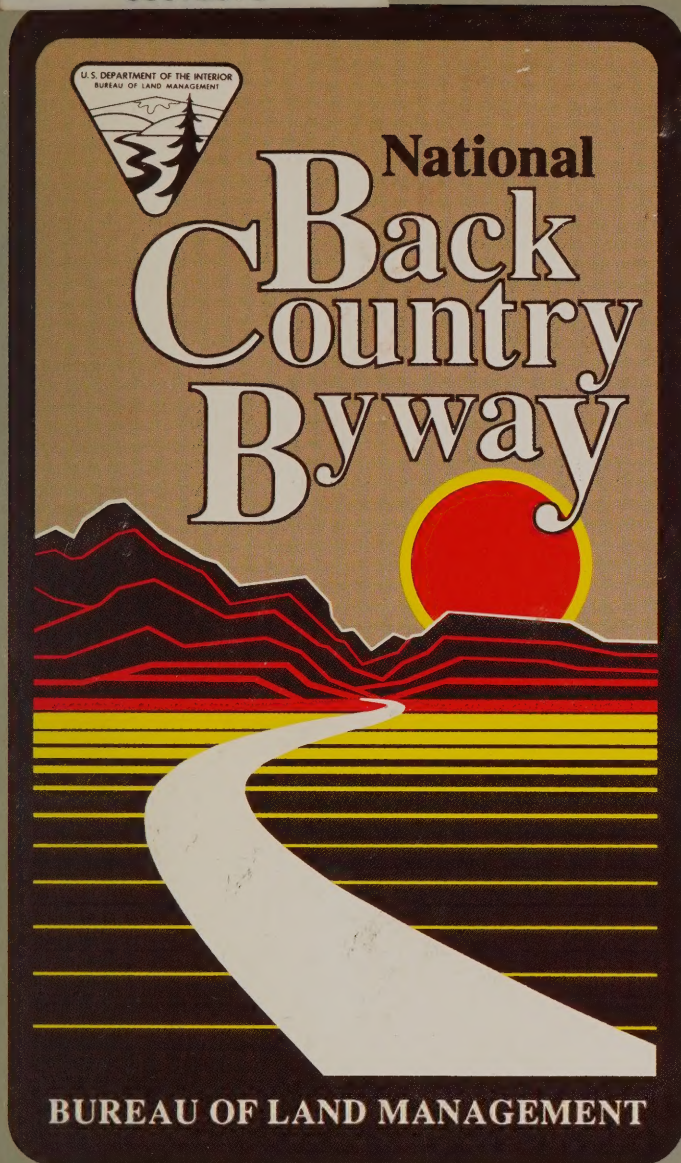




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Pioneers crossing the expanse of the Old West experienced early the vast scenic wonders of this country. The Bureau of Land Management's National Back Country Byways program offers the American public an opportunity to rediscover the splendor of the West's public lands. The program combines America's century-old love affair with motor vehicles and the outdoors. Whether you like air-conditioned cars, 4-wheel drives, or even dirt bikes, there's a Back Country Byway waiting for you to explore.

The National Back Country Byways program is the BLM's unique contribution to the larger National Scenic Byways program. Both are the result of a study by the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors that found 43 percent of American adults identified driving for pleasure as a favorite pastime. In fact, next to walking, driving for pleasure is America's most popular form of recreation. Back Country Byways traverse scenic corridors that are off the beaten path. Many, however, are near rural communities, giving you a chance to visit, eat, stay overnight or just relax in Small Town, USA.

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Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



Unlimited Outdoor Activities

The BLM manages a diversity of lands, from alpine meadows and soaring mountains to sagebrush prairie and saguaro cactus desert. Depending on the Back Country Byway you choose, you may see wildlife, such as moose, elk, antelope, ducks, geese and swan; ancient petroglyphs and fossil areas; Wild and Scenic Rivers; wilderness and wilderness study areas; wild horses and burros; historic trails and structures; unusual geologic formations and historic mining areas and ghost towns. Many Back Country Byways also have hiking, camping or picnicking areas close by.

In addition, you may see some of the ways your public lands are at work for you today. BLM manages its lands for multiple use — a combination of uses that best serves the needs of the American people. You may see wildcat oil or gas wells in Wyoming, gold mines in Nevada, or grazing cattle in Montana.

Take time to explore what the West's vast public lands have to offer. The Bureau of Land Management's National Back Country Byway program gives you unlimited outdoor adventure!



Types of Back Country Byways

National Back Country Byways are designated by the type of road and the vehicle needed to safely travel the Byway.

Type I - Roads are paved or have an all weather surface and have grades that are negotiable by a normal touring car. These roads are usually narrow, slow speed, secondary roads.

Type II - Roads require high-clearance type vehicles such as trucks or 4-wheel drives. These roads are usually not paved, but may have some type of surfacing. Grades, curves, and road surface are such that they can be negotiated with a 2-wheel drive high clearance vehicle without undue difficulty.

Type III - Roads require 4-wheel drive vehicles or other specialized vehicles such as dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), etc. These roads are usually not surfaced, but are managed to provide for safety considerations and resource protection needs. They have grades, tread surfaces, and other characteristics that will require specialized vehicles to negotiate.

Type IV - Trails that are managed specifically to accommodate dirt bike, mountain bike, snowmobile, or ATV use. These are usually single track trails.

Please Take Care -- of Yourself and the Environment

Always check ahead when planning an outing on a Back Country Byway. Carry plenty of water with you, and make sure you have enough gasoline to make the entire trip. Some Byways have no services along the way. It's a good idea to have a spare tire, a jack, tools for repair and a shovel and blankets in your vehicle. Check weather forecasts. Some Byways that are safe for touring cars in dry weather may not be in heavy rain. Please obey all signing and fencing that have been installed for your safety. In addition, we need your help in maintaining and caring for the environment. The preservation of our natural resources is a big responsibility. Let's work together and Take Pride in our public lands.

Contact local BLM offices for more information on individual Back Country Byways.

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Colorado State Office

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Eastern States Office

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Idaho State Office

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Montana State Office

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Nevada State Office

Atten: Public Room
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New Mexico State Office

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Oregon State Office

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